Cardio Vascular Disease by Tobacco Consumption

1751. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people in India suffering from Cardio vascular diseases caused by tobacco consumption;

(b) the concrete steps proposed to ban smoking in public places and public conveyances; and

(c) the policy of Government to phase out cultivation and manufacture of tobacco, the major cause of preventable deaths in the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Information on the number of people suffering from Cardiovascular diseases caused by tobacco is not available. However, estimates has been derived indirectly by utilising the available information on attributable risk of Coronary Heart Diseases (CHD) due to tobacco and number of prevalent cases of CHD cases in the country. Taking an estimate of 2-fold risk, the number of cases attributable to tobacco works out to about 13 lakh persons.

(b) Under administrative instructions, tobacco smoking is prohibited in Hospitals, dispensaries and other health care establishments, educational institutions, Conference Rooms, domestic air flights, air-conditioned sleeper coaches in trains, sub-urban trains and air-conditioned buses under the control of Government of India. Further in the National Capital Territory of Delhi, smoking is prohibited in public places and public conveyances.

(c) The Central Tobacco Research Institute (ICAR) has identified a number of suitable alternate crops like Mustard, Safflower, Sunflower, Soyabean, Groundnut, Ragi, Onion, Garlic and Sugarcane in the FCV Tobacco growing areas. Efforts are being made to propagate the cultivation these crops in the Tobacco growing areas.

Population Policy

1752. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the population policy of Government and what steps are being taken to implement it;

(b) whether there are any specific attempts to achieve the population growth rate around 1.5 per cent;

(c) whether the Planning Commission or any other Ministry of the Central Government has made any projections in this matter;

(d) what has been the response and performance of various State Governments in containing the population growth; and

(e) what has been the state-of-affairs in U.P. and Bihar in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) The draft statement on National Population Policy has been tabled in Rajya Sabha on 10th December, 1996 in reply to Starred Question No. 262. The draft Policy envisages a achievement of the Total Fertility Rate of 2.1 by the year 2010. The National Family Welfare Programme enables free and informed choice regarding size of families and spacing of births. The strategy adopted is adoption of contraception in the short run and provision of quality reproductive and child health services, with associated supplies and information, in the medium and long run.

(d) and (e) The performance of States has been uneven. While Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Goa have achieved the goal of Total Fertility Rate of 2.1 with birth rates